

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., MARCH 29, 1940.

The eighth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1940 was held in its office in the new Interior Department Building on Friday, March 29, 1940. The following members were present:

Mr. Clarke, Chairman,
Mr. Borie,
Mr. Savage,
Mr. Shepley,
Mr. Lamb,
Mr. Manship,
Mr. Bruce,
also H. P. Caemmerer,

Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a. m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The Minutes of the meeting held February 24, 1940, were approved.

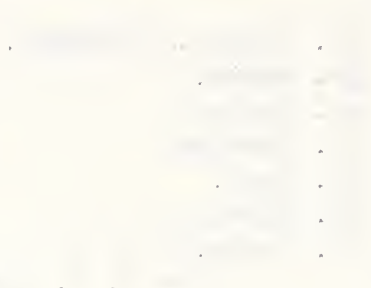
2. REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. CLARKE: Attention was called to the fact that the four-year term of service of Mr. Clarke expires April 18, 1940. All the other members of the Commission felt, unanimously, that Mr. Clarke should be willing to accept a reappointment and continue the duties of Chairman. A letter was accordingly written, which was signed by the members and sent to the President. (Exhibit A)

3. NEW BUILDING FOR THE COAST GUARD: The Chairman read the draft of a bill (Exhibit B) received from the Bureau of the Budget, proposing the erection of an Administration Building for the United States Coast Guard on a site at Seventh Street, Southwest, on the east side of Maine Avenue (old Water Street), near the Washington Channel.

The question was raised whether the area is large enough for a building development of this character but it was shown that the area comprises three

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squares and is 800 feet in length. The draft of the bill was thereupon approved with an amendment to state, "In accordance with designs to be approved by the Commission of Fine Arts". (Exhibit B-1)

4. SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT SUBMISSIONS:

(a) Application No. 826 for change in the length of a Marquise on the west side of the Chestnut Farms Dairy, near the Rock Creek Parkway, was approved.

(b) Application No. 829 for a change in the west entrance of the Chestnut Farms Dairy, near the Rock Creek Parkway, was approved.

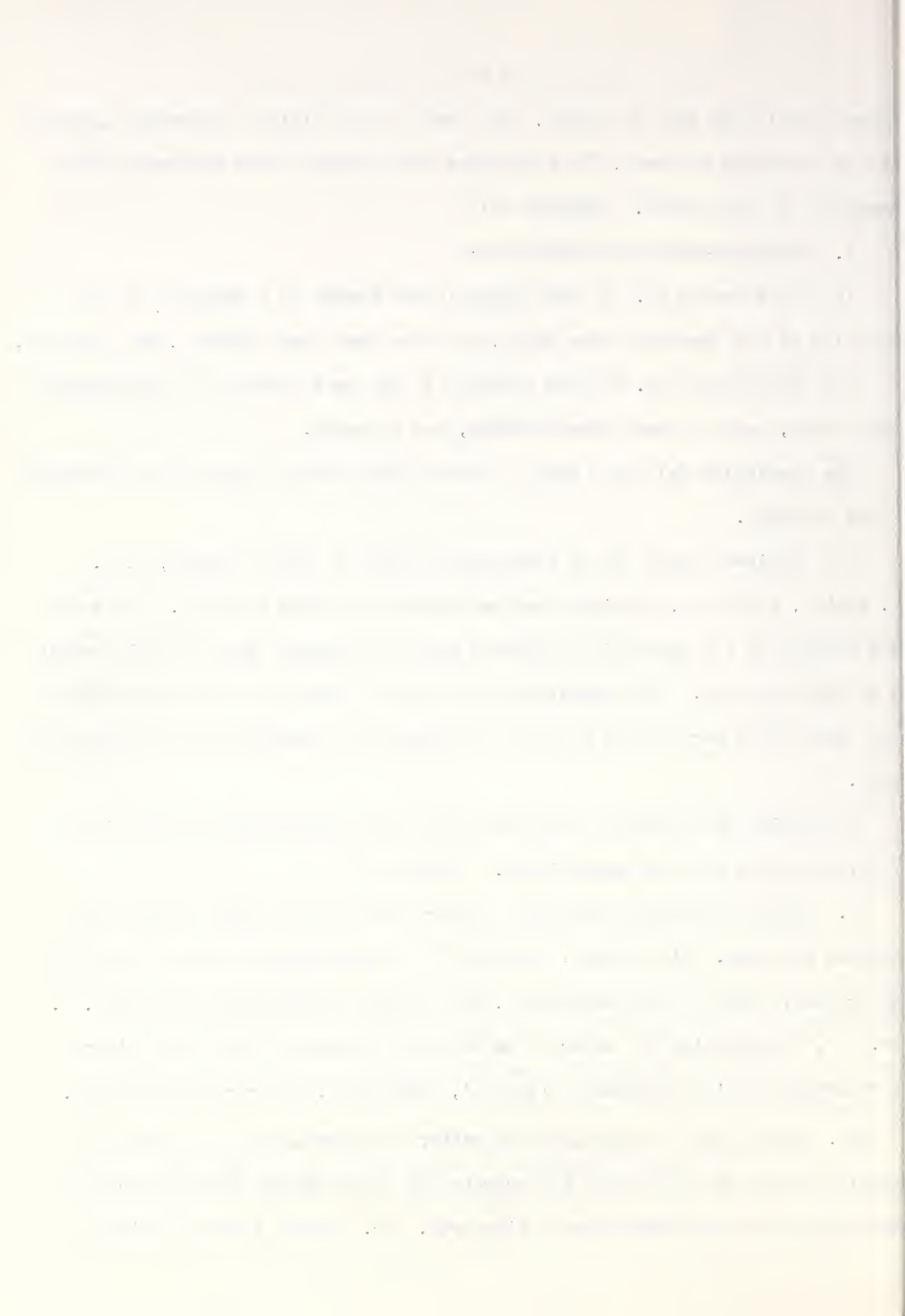
The Commission felt that both of these changes would improve the appearance of the building.

(c) Revised design for an Apartment Building at 2501 Q Street, N. W. Mr. Lepley, architect, submitted revised drawings for the building. The architect members of the Commission inspected them and remarked that it would result in an ugly building. The Commission felt that the design was worse than before, that there is no merit in it and that it suggests the cheapest type of apartment house.

The design was therefore disapproved and the Commissioners of the District of Columbia were notified accordingly. (Exhibit C)

5. MARBLE FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS: Under date of March 13th a letter was received from Hon. Fritz Lanham, Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, House of Representatives, with which he submitted a copy of H. J. Res. 487, "Determining the exterior material and finish of public buildings to be erected in 'the northwest triangle', Washington, District of Columbia".

Mr. Clarke said he felt that this matter of determining the question of materials should not be decided by Congress but by the agency that is erecting the building and the Commission of Fine Arts. Mr. Shepley advised taking up



each building as it comes before the Commission. Mr. Lamb remarked that the Tennessee people would try to get everything in marble and the Alabama people in limestone and the Commission would be put in a somewhat embarrassing position.

Mr. Manship said, "The reason Congress established this Commission was to decide upon such matters".

Mr. Clarke suggested bringing this matter to the attention of Mr. Reynolds, the Commissioner of Public Buildings, and recommending a good grade of limestone. Mr. Shepley said: "I think there is a feeling not only in this Commission but also among the profession that we have these choice buildings on the Mall in marble, and if a marble building is built outside of the Mall, it is going to detract from those gems. Mr. Borie felt a gray-toned marble would be all right. "The fundamental principle of the thing is the Department is responsible for the construction of the building and Congressmen as a whole should welcome the fact that they would be free from being pushed and pulled".

The Commission felt also that if legislation such as this were enacted into law, contractors and supply firms of other kinds of building materials would try to persuade Congress to favor their building material such as granite, limestone, precast stone, concrete and tile, with similar legislation. The Commission finally decided to disapprove the enactment of H. J. Res. 487, and a report was sent to Mr. Lanham accordingly. A similar report was sent to the Bureau of the Budget. (Exhibit D) (See also Exhibit D-1)

6. SCULPTURE FOR THE MUNICIPAL CENTER: Mr. Lee Lawrie submitted a revised model (scale 2 feet to the inch) with letter, as follows:

149 East 116th Street,
New York,
March 20, 1940.

Dear Sirs:

Yesterday I sent to your office, by express, a model at 2 inch scale of the revised scheme for the cheek block at the Municipal Center.

The ten days since the paper sketch was tentatively approved until yesterday was spent in trying different arrangements of these figures, spaces and objects so that they would form a good composition as well as indicate their meaning. There wasn't time enough after the composition was determined for me to model it carefully, so I should appreciate it if you would not view it in a raking cross light.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Lee Lawrie.

It was noted that this sculpture would balance similar sculpture by John Gregory for a cheek block at the entrance to the Municipal Center Building. Mr. Wyeth said they will be executed in Texas Pink Granite. The cap shown on the model is to be removed the same as on Mr. Gregory's.

Mr. Shepley compared the photograph with the model and felt that Mr. Lawrie's work was a little thin. Mr. Wyeth said, "It is slightly thinner in volume". Mr. Lawrie portrayed in his model Water, Light and Drainage, and the Building Department--all activities of the District Government.

The Commission approved the model as a sketch, subject to further development. Mr. Wyeth said each sculptor will receive \$7,500 for his full-sized model but that the execution of the sculpture will be under a separate contract. A report was sent to Mr. Wyeth. (Exhibit E)

7. CERAMICS FOR THE MUNICIPAL CENTER: Mr. Clarke said, "I heard from some one that the terra cotta that was to go into the court of the Municipal Center Building has been ordered to be held in abeyance and that the artists have been asked to stop work."

Mr. Wyeth explained that the Engineer Commissioner had told him that the Commissioners had decided to postpone the work because the funds were necessary elsewhere. "The action is not final. Originally \$50,000 was allocated for the

murals and sculpture, \$25,000 for each. The sculpture work is under contract."

Mr. Lamb asked, "What proportion is being devoted to aesthetic development?"

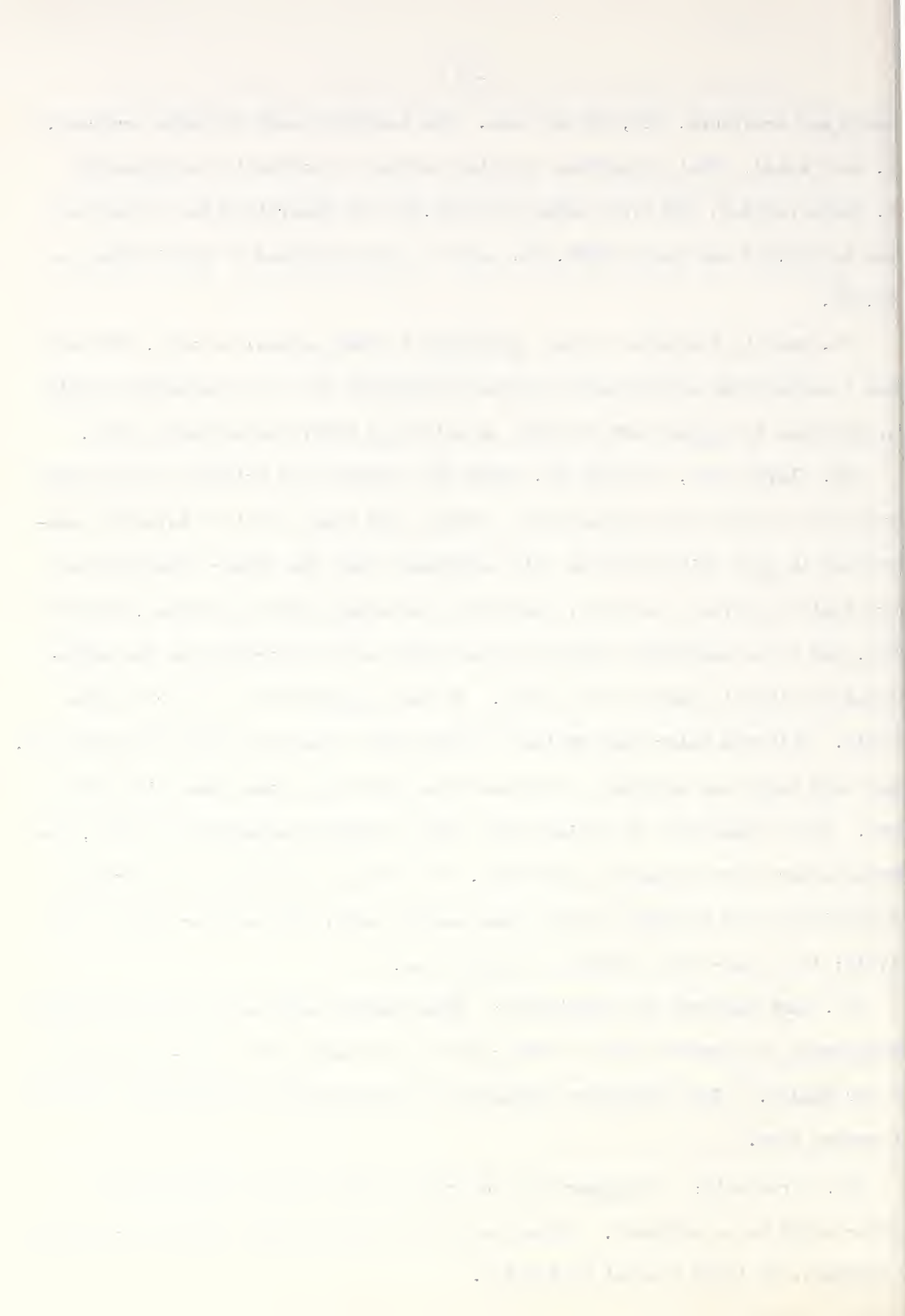
Mr. Wyeth replied, "We first asked for \$100,000 for decoration but it was cut down to \$75,000 and then to \$50,000, and it is now proposed to cut it down to \$25,000.

Mr. Manship expressed strong opposition to such action; he said, "We have seen a competition and we were very much interested and it is certainly within our province to support art projects on buildings under the advisory power."

Mr. Clarke said, "I think Mr. Wyeth will support our writing a very strong letter to the District Commissioners stating that these people entered the competition in good faith with the full expectancy that the winner chosen by the jury would be given a contract; they have gone ahead with the project, both of them, and it is manifestly unfair to the artist and to everybody in the competition to withhold funds at this time. It was a competition for terra cotta murals. Hildreth Meiere and Waylande Gregory were chosen and they are both good. They have both been notified of the award and both have gone ahead with their work. It is reasonable to believe that when a limited competition is held, the Commissioners were acting in good faith. It reduces the amount of sculptural decoration on the building to less than one per cent; even one per cent is too little; it is one-fifth of what it ought to be."

Mr. Lamb informed the Commission: "Miss Meiere asked me to bring down some photographs to show what she is doing; she has already made a full-sized section of her design." The Commission inspected the photographs and expressed interest in seeing them.

Mr. Borie said: "I support the Chairman in his view and think such a letter ought to be written". The action of the Commissioners tends to repudiate a contract, at least a moral obligation.



Mr. Manship emphasized the fact that there is a very big interest involved, that is, the whole attitude of the Commission of Fine Arts with regard to the proper decoration of municipal and national buildings. That is even more important than that an artist has been cheated out of his work. Mr. Lamb felt that the letter should point out that there is a principle involved with regard to the artist and that also these buildings ought to have some embellishment.

Mr. Clarke asked whether Mr. Carmody, Public Works Administrator, has something to do with this. Mr. Wyeth replied, "No, Mr. Carmody has nothing to do with this. It is entirely under the Commissioners. They secured a P. W. A. loan of \$18,000,000, which was allocated for different buildings: \$100,000 was for this building for sculpture, decoration, landscape and other items. Street improvements around the building were also included. This is a P. W. A. loan directly to the District and not to any other branch of the Federal Government. Work on the ceramics was suspended because they may have to use these funds for engineering projects."

Mr. Borie said, "This tends to repudiate a contract. One having been made, we believe it involves a moral obligation."

Mr. Manship was thereupon requested by the Chairman to draft a telegram to the Engineer Commissioner, which he did and which was sent as follows:

March 29, 1940.

Col. David McCoach, Engineer Commissioner,
District of Columbia,
District Building,
Washington, D.C.

At meeting today of Commission of Fine Arts we are surprised to learn of suspension and possible elimination of mural ceramics for D. C. East Administration Building. These are considered of prime importance to complement monumental and architectural qualities of buildings. After competition and awards made for this work we believe the District of Columbia Government morally obligated to carry it out. Letter follows.

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman, Commission of Fine Arts.

Colonel McCoach replied by letter of March 29th, acknowledging the receipt of the telegram, indicating that the Commissioners will do all in their power to restore the item. (Exhibits F and F-1)

8. FLAGPOLES FOR THE MUNICIPAL CENTER: Mr. Wyeth submitted a design for flagpoles 54 feet high to be placed at the site of the Municipal Center Building. The Commission felt that the base had a very ordinary design.

Mr. Bruce said he felt there should be sculpture on the base and would recommend a program of competition. The Commission concurred.

The Commission recommended placing the flagpoles of the height proposed on the north side of the Municipal Center Building, but withheld approval of the design until the question of a proper flagpole base is settled. (Exhibit G)

9. MATERIAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ARMORY: Mr. Wyeth said he had received an urgent application from the firm making precast stone slabs for permission to bid for the Armory but was under the impression that the Commission of Fine Arts had definitely ruled out precast stone.

The Chairman reminded Mr. Wyeth of the conference with the Engineer Commissioner, Colonel McCoach and other officials of the District of Columbia Government last November, at which time at their request the Commission of Fine Arts had approved the use of limestone for the Armory.

The architect members of the Commission again considered the matter and again expressed the feeling that precast stone has not been subjected sufficiently to the test of time; that the National Guard Armory will become a portion of a larger composition at the end of East Capitol Street, and therefore should be of a material which is lasting and likely to harmonize with other structures to be built there. The Commission had no objection to utilizing precast architectural concrete slabs for the interior.

Mr. Wyeth said he would appreciate a letter from the Commission of Fine Arts embodying these statements, and it was sent accordingly. (Exhibit H)

(Mr. Lamb and Mr. Borie visited the Naval Testing Basin on Friday afternoon and were confirmed in the opinion expressed during the morning session that this precast stone is not suitable for exterior use. The building showed that the slabs were discoloring and becoming black at the joints.)

10. SCULPTURE FOR THE SOCIAL SECURITY BUILDING: Under date of March 25, 1940, a letter was received from Mr. Edward Bruce, Chief of the Section of Painting and Sculpture of the Federal Works Agency, as follows:

March 25, 1940.

Mr. Gilmore Clarke, Chairman
Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Re: Sculpture model by Richmond
Barthe for the Social Security
Building.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

Submitted, herewith, for the comment and advice of the Commission of Fine Arts is a photograph of a sketch model in plaster in the scale of one and a half inches equals one foot for a relief of the American eagle to be carved in limestone on the above building. The design is by Mr. Richmond Barthe.

The sculpture which will be nine feet six inches in diameter with a six inch projection will be located on the Independence Avenue facade of the building over the entrance door, approximately sixty-five feet above the street level as indicated on the enclosed blue print.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) Edward Bruce,
Chief of the Section of Fine Arts.

Mr. Bruce said the eagle will be 9 feet 6 inches in diameter and will be 65 feet from the ground.

Mr. Marship inspected the photograph and said that the head has been quite well modeled but might be given some further study; that the stars on the perimeter of the disc should be raised rather than be in intaglio.

The matter was discussed with Mr. Simon, who showed from a blueprint that the eagle is a part of a great panel. The Commission felt that the eagle should be modeled in connection with the panel as a whole, and withheld approval until this is done. A letter was sent to Mr. Bruce accordingly. (Exhibit I)

Mr. Simon commented on the question of design of an eagle for federal buildings. He said, "When an eagle is on a government building it is an insignia of the United States Government--it is part of the Government Seal, and I do not think you can divorce that idea from anything that is on a government building. I do not think that means a slavish copy of the eagle on the Great Seal, but I think it means a recalling of the spirit of the thing that is represented on the United States Seal. I do not think it is part of the sculptor's job to take all the liberties he wants with something that is more or less a stable thing.

Mr. Marship took issue with Mr. Simon on the manner in which the eagle is made use of by the Government on works of art. He showed to Mr. Simon a number of coins showing the eagle portrayed in different ways. The 25-cent piece shows a flying eagle. The eagle on the 50-cent piece does not carry the arrows and the olive branch. The eagle on the George Washington Bicentennial quarter stands on fasces.

Mr. Lamb said, "I think an eagle on a coin is a little different matter; but in the first place, why an eagle? It ought to be conventionalized in a certain way for a Federal symbol."

(See also Exhibit I-1) that the sculpture has been limited to the eagle, the rest of the decorative panel having been eliminated.)

The first part of the paper discusses the importance of the study of the history of the United States. It is argued that a knowledge of the past is essential for a full understanding of the present. The author then goes on to discuss the various factors which have shaped the development of the United States, including the influence of the British, the Spanish, and the French. He also discusses the role of the American people in the creation of the new nation. The second part of the paper is a detailed account of the various events which have shaped the history of the United States, from the first settlement of the colonies to the present day. The author discusses the various wars, the various revolutions, and the various changes in the government. He also discusses the various social and economic changes which have taken place. The third part of the paper is a discussion of the future of the United States. The author discusses the various problems which the United States faces, and he offers his own suggestions for the way in which these problems should be solved. He also discusses the various hopes and dreams of the American people, and he offers his own suggestions for the way in which these hopes and dreams should be realized. The paper concludes with a discussion of the importance of the study of the history of the United States, and it offers a final thought on the future of the nation.

11. SCULPTURE FOR THE WAR DEPARTMENT BUILDING: Mr. Louis Simon, Supervising Architect, submitted blueprints of floor plans and wall spaces of interiors for the new War Department Building. These were inspected by the Commission for the purpose of considering the question of sculpture and paintings in the building. The Commission noted that there would be ample wall space, particularly in the reception room, for paintings. It was noted that the rooms might be somewhat dark, but paintings could be lighted by a spotlight or "bulls eye".

Places for sculptural groups were provided at the entrance to the building as also places for flags against the facade. An arrangement similar to that of the cenotaph in London was favored, a rigid piece of architecture with flags that give life and movement of color. (Exhibit J)

12. PORTRAIT OF FORMER PRESIDENT HOOVER: The secretary presented a list of 26 applicants who wish to paint the portrait of former President Hoover for the White House that has been authorized by Congress. (Exhibit K)

The Chairman reported the receipt of a letter from Senator Barkley, Chairman of the Joint Committee on the Library, as follows:

March 8, 1940.

Hon. Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Clarke:

Replying to your letter of February 27 relative to the oil portrait of former President Herbert Hoover for the White House, I beg to say that while the appropriation has not been made, I would be glad to have a recommendation. I feel also that Mr. Hoover should be consulted.

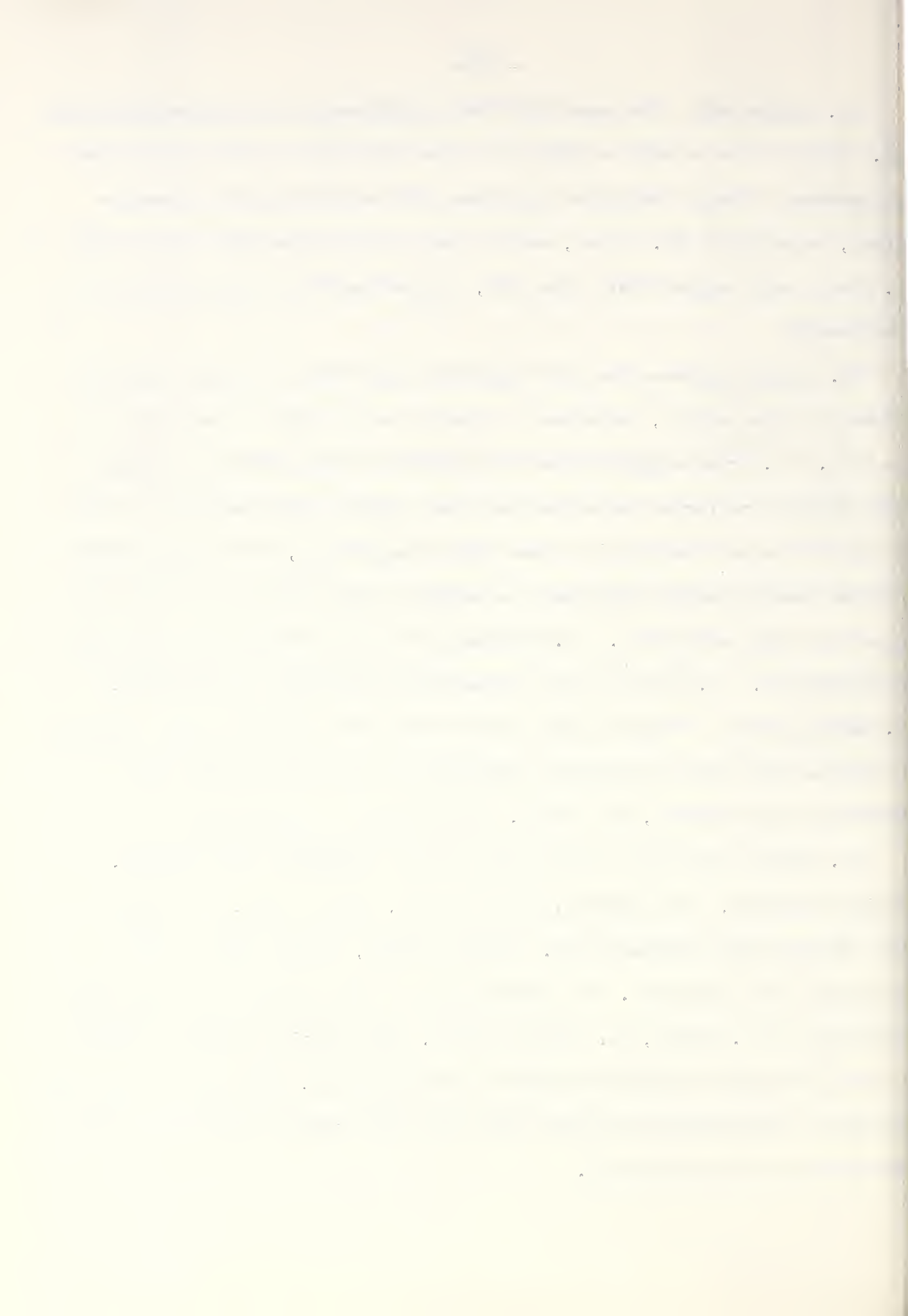
Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) Alben W. Barkley.

Mr. Clarke said: "We have this list of applicants but no appropriation as yet. Would it not be well to pick out of the list four or five that we know are competent through having had experience and send that list to Lawrence Richey, secretary to Mr. Hoover, who can take up the matter with him and let Mr. Hoover make suggestions? After all, the personality of the man has to be considered."

Mr. Savage suggested that the Commission pick five of the best portrait painters of the country, regardless of whether or not they are mentioned in the list. Mr. Bruce suggested that the Section of Fine Arts of the Federal Works Agency circularize the artists and get opinions from them as to a list of five of the best painters, or even hold a competition, but it was pointed out that Senator Barkley addressed the letter to the Commission of Fine Arts, requesting this information. Mr. Lamb said, "I do not think that we can have a competition". Mr. Shepley said, "We would be delegating our authority."

Mr. Manship added: "Why not make a list of the five ablest portrait painters we know and ask them to send their photographs of work done to the Joint Committee on the Library, and let Mr. Hoover make his suggestions."

Mr. Savage said there are few able portrait painters in the country. Charles Hopkinson, John Johansen, Ward Lockwood, Curtis Baker, and Colonel Todd (who had been endorsed by Mr. Benjamin Morris, former member of the Commission) were mentioned. The Chairman was of the opinion that a committee consisting of Mr. Savage, Mr. Manship and Mr. Bruce should be able to submit a list of five able portrait painters to the Commission, and since no appropriation has as yet been made available the matter was deferred for action at the next meeting of the Commission.



13. DESIGN FOR RAMP, CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION BUILDING: Mr. Charles A. Peters, Public Buildings Manager, Federal Works Agency, submitted a scheme for a ramp at 7th and G Streets, N. W., which he said was needed so that trucks could enter the building; the scheme was submitted with a letter from Mr. W. E. Reynolds, Commissioner of Public Buildings, under date of March 25, as follows:

March 25, 1940.

The Chairman,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The Civil Service Building is one of the few large Government buildings in Washington having no driveway, ramp or court facilities for adequately unloading supplies and equipment into the building. This condition has resulted in congestion on the adjacent streets and in the past, has created many traffic hazards.

With a view of remedying these conditions, funds have been made available by Congress in the current appropriation to provide a new entrance from Seventh Street to permit the unloading of trucks at points convenient to the mechanical shops.

Studies have been made and sketches are submitted herewith for your consideration of a treatment which, it is believed, will provide satisfactory unloading facilities.

It will be appreciated if you will approve these sketches at your meeting to be held on March 29 in order that contract drawings and specifications may be prepared and the work advertised at an early date.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) W. E. Reynolds,
Commissioner of Public Buildings.

The designs were inspected by the architect members of the Commission. They showed that it was proposed to have one section of the ramp lead to the ground floor and the other to the basement at 7th and G Streets, N. W. Mr. Peters said the basement facilities were much needed due to the fact that the Public

The first of these is the fact that the
 system is not a simple one. It is a
 complex one, and it is not possible to
 describe it in a simple way. It is a
 system of many parts, and it is not
 possible to describe it in a simple way.

The second of these is the fact that the
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 describe it in a simple way. It is a
 system of many parts, and it is not
 possible to describe it in a simple way.

Buildings Office has carpenter and tool shops there and as it is now trucks must park along the curb, where drivers are subject to arrest because of no parking facilities.

The Commission were not satisfied with the scheme offered, stating that the excavations involved would create an eyesore in the locality. Mr. Clarke called attention to the scheme used in New York City of a ramp going to the ground floor and using a drop to take things to the basement. The Commission recommended a restudy of the scheme with a view to such an arrangement for this building.

14. SCULPTURE AND PAINTINGS FOR PUBLIC BUILDINGS: The Commission considered the draft of a letter proposed to be sent to the Members of Congress asking their interest in the matter of providing adequate sculpture and paintings for public buildings. The letter was read and after a few minor changes was approved.

(Exhibit L)

Mr. Bruce stated that he was scheduled to give a radio talk on this subject with Mrs. Roosevelt, Prof. John Dewey, Senator McNary, and possibly others, at 9:30 p. m. on Thursday, April 25th, over N. B. C. It was suggested that the letter to the Members of Congress be sent to them by that time and the secretary stated that he would see to it that this was done.

15. PORTRAIT OF JUSTICE BRANDEIS: Under date of February 27, 1940, the following letter was received from Hon. Thomas E. Waggaman, Marshal of the Supreme Court of the United States:

February 27, 1940.

My dear Mr. Caemmerer:

The Chairman of our Art Committee, Mr. Justice Stone, has suggested that I get the opinion of your Committee on the desirability of accepting the portrait of Mr. Justice Brandeis, now hanging in the

New National Museum, as it is our understanding that his former Law Clerks are contemplating presenting it to the Court.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Thomas E. Waggaman.

Mr. Savage visited the National Museum, inspected the portrait, and reported as follows:

The portrait may or may not be a sympathetic likeness of the Justice. It impresses me as such. Beyond that the portrait is rather weak. The management of portraiture and hands and general composition and spacial division is rather weak all through. It is not a good painting, and I would not recommend it for the Supreme Court Building."

The Commission concurred in the report of Mr. Savage and a report disapproving the placing of the portrait in the Supreme Court Building was sent to Mr. Waggaman accordingly. (Exhibit H)

16. WEST WORKS OF THE WASHINGTON GAS LIGHT COMPANY: Under date of March 9, 1940, a protest was received from the West End Citizens Association, W. F. Wesson, President, against unsightly conditions created by the West Works of the Washington Gas Light Company, at 26th and H Streets, N. W., and recommending their relocation, as follows:

2107 H Street, N. W.,
March 9, 1940.

Fine Arts Commission,
Department of Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

The West End Citizens Association, at its last meeting passed the following resolution:

Whereas, the Federal Government is spending millions of dollars in close proximity to the West Works of the Washington Gas Light Company and

Whereas, these tanks are an eyesore to the section adjacent to them and can be seen for a long distance from the Rock Creek Parkway and

Whereas, this is the only thing that is keeping this section from being one of the finest sections of Washington bordering the Rock Creek Parkway and the Potomac River and

Whereas, the residents of this West End section were given to understand that the permission to use these tanks would be limited to the time the Gas Company secured another site and

Whereas, the Washington Gas Light Company has had for many years another site

Therefore, be it resolved: That the Public Utilities Commission and the Fine Arts Commission be requested to compel the Washington Gas Light Company to remove their West Works which are in the vicinity of 26th and H Sts., W. W.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) W. F. Wasson.
President.

The Commission decided that this was a matter under the jurisdiction of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and that the protest should be referred to that Commission for appropriate action (Exhibit N). Mr. Lamb said he did not vote on this matter since he happened to be a stockholder in the company. (See also N-1)

17. DESIGN FOR BRIDGE, NORTH ACCESS ROADWAY TO THE WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT: Under date of March 20th a Memorandum was received from the National Park Service, as follows:

March 20, 1940.

MEMORANDUM for Mr. E. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary, National Commission of Fine Arts.

Transmitted herewith for consideration by the National Commission of Fine Arts are five brown line prints each of the drawings bearing the numbers 117.5-103, 117.5-103A, 117.5-103B, and 117.5-103C. These drawings present studies of various types for the bridge carrying the relocated Mt. Vernon Memorial Highway over the North Access Roadway to the Washington National Airport. Accompanying these submissions are estimates of cost of each type of bridge, prepared by the Public Roads Administration.

It will be noted that Drawing No. 117.5-103 is the scheme submitted at the February meeting of the Commission, at which time the Commission suggested further study. It is merely submitted again for reference, and if the Commission desires, for reconsideration.

As the National Park Service is doing the architectural design of this structure for the Civil Aeronautics Authority, in collaboration with the Public Roads Administration, the comments of these other agencies are attached relating to influencing factors which should be considered in any decision.

These drawings have been reviewed by Mr. Downer, consultant for the Federal Works Agency, to whom is being sent a copy of this transmittal. Since Mr. Downer is also located in New York, it is suggested that your Chairman, Mr. Clarke, can reach him direct for any comment he may care to make.

Attached are also five copies each of the comments of the Public Roads Administration and the Civil Aeronautics Authority. The National Park Service is agreeable to any of the four types as a solution to this problem. I am hesitant to submit this item between meetings of the Commission, but pressure for expediency in execution of this project makes such procedure necessary.

Also enclosed are five photostatic prints of the general plan of the Airport at a scale of approximately one inch equals five hundred feet, which should be enclosed with each submission to the Chairman and Architect Members for their information.

This service, the Public Roads Administration and the Civil Aeronautics Authority will appreciate your expediting the transmittal of the drawings and the comments on this structure.

(Signed) Donald L. Kline,
Resident Landscape Architect.

Enclosure 1935901

The schemes presented suggested bridges:

1. Steel girder and stone abutment, drawing No. 117.5-103
2. All concrete arch and abutments, drawing No. 117.5-103A
3. Concrete arch with stone abutments, drawing No. 117.5-103B
4. All stone arch and abutments, drawing No. 117.5-103C

Prints had been sent to the architect members of the Commission for consideration prior to the meeting.

The first of these is the fact that the number of cases of disease has increased in the last few years. This is due to a number of causes, including the fact that the population has increased, and the fact that the climate is becoming more favorable to the disease.

The second cause is the fact that the disease is becoming more common in the tropics. This is due to the fact that the climate is becoming more favorable to the disease, and the fact that the population is increasing in these regions.

The third cause is the fact that the disease is becoming more common in the temperate zones. This is due to the fact that the climate is becoming more favorable to the disease, and the fact that the population is increasing in these regions.

The fourth cause is the fact that the disease is becoming more common in the arctic regions. This is due to the fact that the climate is becoming more favorable to the disease, and the fact that the population is increasing in these regions.

The fifth cause is the fact that the disease is becoming more common in the subarctic regions. This is due to the fact that the climate is becoming more favorable to the disease, and the fact that the population is increasing in these regions.

The sixth cause is the fact that the disease is becoming more common in the subtemperate regions. This is due to the fact that the climate is becoming more favorable to the disease, and the fact that the population is increasing in these regions.

The seventh cause is the fact that the disease is becoming more common in the subtropical regions. This is due to the fact that the climate is becoming more favorable to the disease, and the fact that the population is increasing in these regions.

The eighth cause is the fact that the disease is becoming more common in the tropical regions. This is due to the fact that the climate is becoming more favorable to the disease, and the fact that the population is increasing in these regions.

The ninth cause is the fact that the disease is becoming more common in the equatorial regions. This is due to the fact that the climate is becoming more favorable to the disease, and the fact that the population is increasing in these regions.

Mr. McNary of the Bureau of Public Roads was present and was asked to express his views concerning the designs. Mr. McNary said the Bureau of Public Roads favors a stone bridge (Scheme No. 4), which he said was in keeping with the rest of the Mount Vernon Highway.

Mr. Lamb said, "I think the point ought to be made and discussed, whether it has to be of the same type as the other bridges on the highway insofar as you don't see it from the highway".

Mr. Clarke said, "When you leave the Mount Vernon Highway you are still on the Mount Vernon Highway until you get into the airport and there is some argument as to continuity, and if it were concrete or steel, the bridge would be entirely out of character with what you see on the Mount Vernon Highway. I think the attitude of the Bureau of Public Roads is well taken. However, it is a pretty flat span to cover with stone; the rise in the arch is only about 3 feet. Mr. McNary admitted it was a rigid span. He said the difference in cost between steel and concrete has not been determined. He said, "We have not designed a steel bridge; we are waiting for the green signal to go ahead." Mr. J. Downer, consulting engineer for the project, was present and suggested stone for the abutments. Mr. Clarke advised eliminating the tow wall, taking out the notch in the design but leaving the wing wall in a steel span bridge with stone-faced abutments. The Commission concurred in this and a report was sent to the National Park Service accordingly. (Exhibit C)

18. BRIDGE FOR THE SOUTH ACCESS OVERPASS TO THE WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT: Mr. Downer reported that a committee of airport officials held a meeting this morning at which a sketch for the South Access Overpass to the Washington National Airport (along the Mount Vernon Highway a short distance north of Four Mile Run)

has been agreed to, and as there was urgency in the matter he would appreciate it if the Commission of Fine Arts would advise concerning the design. Mr. Donald Kline, Landscape Architect of the National Park Service, was thereupon requested to submit the design to the Commission.

Two schemes were presented: one a bridge consisting of a steel span 104 feet in length. This had not been favored by the committee because a steel girder of that length would make the bridge look flat. In this the Commission concurred. The other scheme suggested a double arched bridge, stone faced. The Mount Vernon Highway will pass through the arches, which together give a width of 48 to 50 feet.

After consideration the Commission approved this design for a double arched stone faced bridge and the National Park Service was informed accordingly; the approval was made with the understanding that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission approve the location proposed for the bridge, which is a short distance north of Four Mile Run. (Exhibit P)

19. ROSE PARK PLAYGROUND: Mr. Donald Kline, Landscape Architect of the National Park Service, submitted a plan for the Rose Park Playground, adjacent to the Rock Creek Parkway, between Olive and P Streets, N. W. Mr. Kline stated that the playground was designed as a unit, for either white or negro children. The plan was inspected by Mr. Clarke and upon his recommendation the Commission approved it. (Exhibit Q)

20. MARCONI MEMORIAL: Under date of March 26, 1940, the following letter was received from the Marconi Memorial Association, requesting that the Commission consider a new location for the memorial:

March 26th, 1940.

Gentlemen:

The requirement imposed upon us by the Park Service Commission is such that makes it impossible for us to comply with their request

wherein an expenditure of approximately \$13,000.00 for landscaping the site allotted to us would be necessary. The funds available for the Marconi Memorial are not sufficient to allow an expenditure of this amount for landscaping, park benches and flood lights. The members of the Board appreciate the care and consideration that your Commission gave to the selection of this site on which this monument could be erected, but they feel that the unexpected expenditure approximately one-third of the total available funds for a minor item of landscaping seems out of proportion for any such memorial of this size and scope.

We are, therefore, requesting and applying to your Commission to have assigned to us another site, if available, where the landscaping would not be such a major item in comparison with the total cost of the project.

Thanking you for your past kind consideration, we are

Very truly yours,
MARCONI MEMORIAL FOUNDATION,
By: (Signed) S. Samuel DiFalco.

Also a letter was received from the J. F. Manning Company of Washington, dated March 22nd, making a similar request and stating that they have been designated as the contractors for the memorial:

March 22, 1940.

Gentlemen:

In conversation on March 21st 1940 with Mr. Generoso Pope, Chairman of the Marconi Foundation, he advised us that the Foundation would be unable to meet the requirements in regard to the necessary landscaping of the site at Sixteenth Street and Columbia Road, as the tentative estimate is slightly over \$13,000.00 for the suggested landscaping of this area.

As they only have between \$2000.00 and \$2500.00 available for landscaping, they have asked us to request the Fine Arts Commission to assign them another site on which the landscaping would not exceed the funds they have available for this purpose.

The Marconi Commission has selected us as contractors for the granite work and the erection of the memorial and have asked us to make the above request on their behalf.

Yours very cordially,
THE J. F. MANNING COMPANY INC.
By Eric A. Bruce, Manager.

The Commission considered the matter during an inspection trip and decided to recommend again a location heretofore suggested in Meridian Hill Park. Also a site at 16th and Lamont Streets was inspected and agreed to as a second choice. A letter was sent to Mr. DiPalco accordingly. (Exhibit R)

The Commission adjourned at 3:45 p. m.

C O P Y

March 29, 1940.

Sir:

We, the undersigned, members of the Commission of Fine Arts, in session today, respectfully recommend that Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke, whose term of office expires on April 18, 1940, be reappointed to succeed himself as a member of the Commission of Fine Arts. In our considered opinion, Mr. Clarke's outstanding services as Chairman, since September, 1937, warrants his continuing in that capacity in order to insure continuity in the important duties of this Commission.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) Henry R. Shepley

Paul Manship

Eugene Savage

Wm. F. Lamb

C. L. Borie

Edward Bruce

The President

The White House.

1911

1911

1911

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been elected to the office of Mayor of the City of New York for the year 1911. The names are listed in alphabetical order of the surnames. The names of the persons who have been elected to the office of Mayor of the City of New York for the year 1911 are: John A. B. Smith, John C. Jones, John D. Brown, John E. White, John F. Black, John G. Green, John H. Gray, John I. Gold, John J. Silver, John K. Copper, John L. Iron, John M. Lead, John N. Zinc, John O. Tin, John P. Nickel, John Q. Cobalt, John R. Manganese, John S. Magnesium, John T. Calcium, John U. Strontium, John V. Barium, John W. Radium, John X. Actinium, John Y. Thorium, John Z. Uranium.

John A. B. Smith
John C. Jones
John D. Brown
John E. White
John F. Black
John G. Green
John H. Gray
John I. Gold
John J. Silver
John K. Copper
John L. Iron
John M. Lead
John N. Zinc
John O. Tin
John P. Nickel
John Q. Cobalt
John R. Manganese
John S. Magnesium
John T. Calcium
John U. Strontium
John V. Barium
John W. Radium
John X. Actinium
John Y. Thorium
John Z. Uranium

John A. B. Smith
John C. Jones
John D. Brown
John E. White
John F. Black
John G. Green
John H. Gray
John I. Gold
John J. Silver
John K. Copper
John L. Iron
John M. Lead
John N. Zinc
John O. Tin
John P. Nickel
John Q. Cobalt
John R. Manganese
John S. Magnesium
John T. Calcium
John U. Strontium
John V. Barium
John W. Radium
John X. Actinium
John Y. Thorium
John Z. Uranium

C O P Y

A BILL

To authorize the construction of a building and wharf for the administrative headquarters of the United States Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to acquire, by purchase, condemnation, donation, or otherwise, a site in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, within the area bounded by Maine Avenue, I (Eye) Street, and 7th Street, Southwest, and to erect thereon, furnish and equip a building together with all other incidental facilities, utilities and appurtenances, as a part of a combined project to provide a suitable building and wharf for the accommodation of the administrative Headquarters of the United States Coast Guard.

SEC. 2. There are hereby authorized to be included in the works of improvement authorized on the Potomac River, north side of Washington Channel, District of Columbia, by section 1 of the Act approved August 30, 1935, 49 Stat. 1031, the construction of a wharf and approaches thereto, suitable for the purposes of the combined project for the administrative Headquarters of the Coast Guard, opposite the site above described for the Coast Guard building, the construction of approximately 900 feet of sea-wall opposite said site, and the necessary rearrangement and reassignment of wharves and yacht basins not heretofore contracted to be constructed. Upon completion of the said wharf jurisdiction and maintenance thereof shall be assumed by the Secretary of the Treasury: Provided, That the wharf shall be available for use by all Government agencies requiring temporary berthing facilities.

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SEC. 3. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated the sum of \$4,750,000 to be expended by the Federal Works Administrator for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act, including but not limited to administrative costs, expenses of investigation, the preparation of working drawings and specifications, the award of contracts, the supervision of construction, furniture and equipment, and suitable approaches and landscaping adjacent to the building and wharf; Provided, That all work involved in connection with the construction of the wharf, sea-wall and other waterfront facilities shall be under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers, and the sum necessary for expenditure for that portion of the work shall be transferred to the Secretary of War; Provided further, That the Federal Works Administrator and the Secretary of War, after any appropriation shall have been made to carry out the provisions of this Act, are hereby authorized to enter into contracts not exceeding in aggregate amount the sum herein authorized to be appropriated, unless otherwise provided by the act making such appropriation.

FAH:GEM:WEK - 2/20/40
Rewritten WEK 3/5/40



C O P Y

March 28, 1940.

My dear Mr. Blandford:

Your letter of March 25th with its enclosure of a draft of bill "To authorize the construction of a building and wharf for the administrative headquarters of the United States Coast Guard and for other purposes, received the consideration of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting today.

The Commission approve the legislation with the suggestion that the bill be amended to state (line 8, page 2, after the word, wharf), "In accordance with designs to be approved by the Commission of Fine Arts".

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

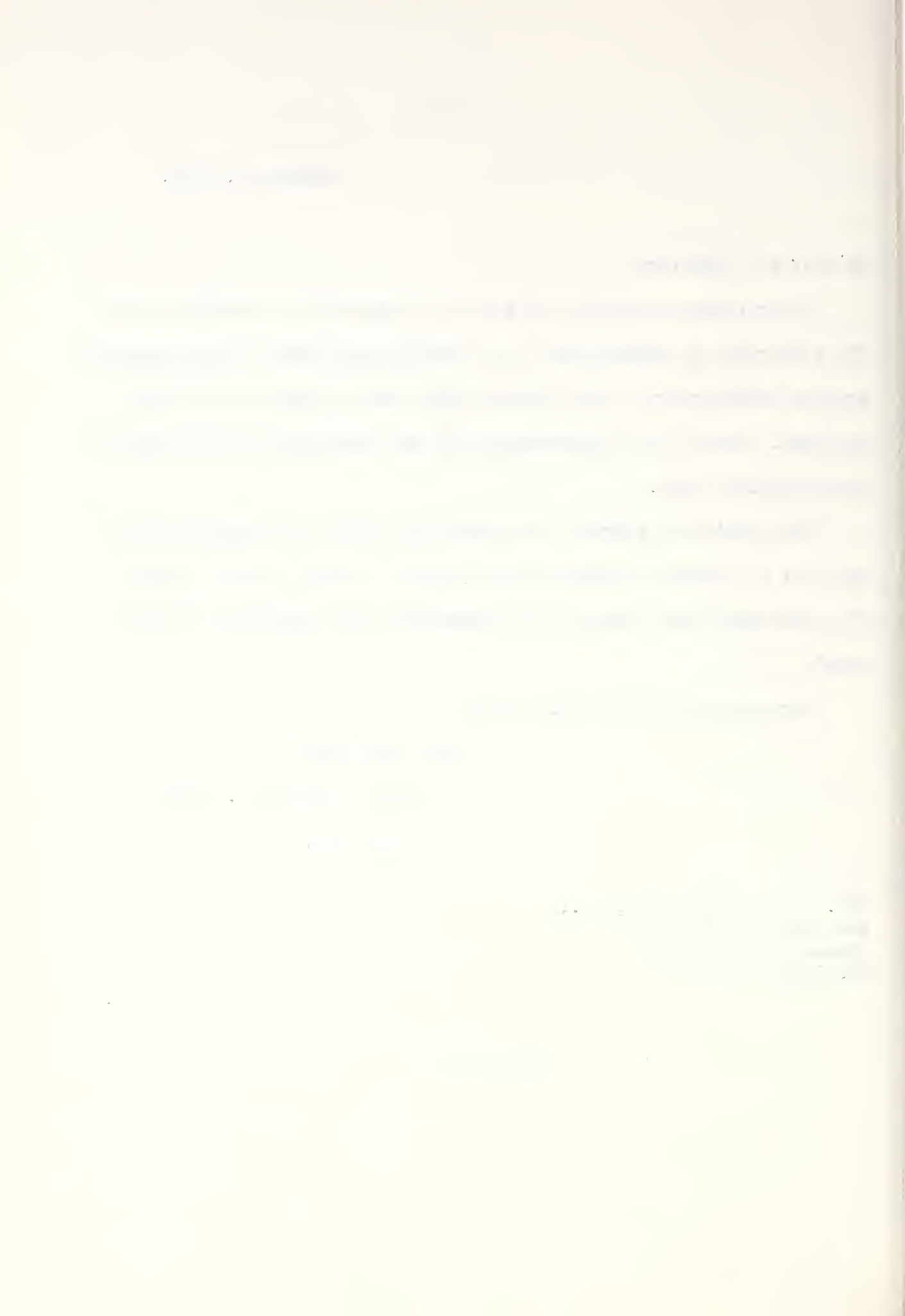
Very respectfully,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Hon. John E. Blandford, Jr.,
Assistant Director,
Bureau of the Budget,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT E-1



C O P Y

March 30, 1940.

Dear Sirs:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on February 24 and again at a meeting held March 29, 1940, considered a design for an apartment house at 2501 Q Street, Northwest, adjacent to the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway.

The Commission gave the design very careful consideration and disapproved it, as being unsuitable for the prominent location proposed for it near the Q Street Bridge. The design has no architectural merit and suggests the cheapest type of apartment house.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,
(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

The Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C

C O P Y

March 29, 1940.

My dear Mr. Lanham:

Your letter of March 13th with its enclosure of a copy of H. J. Res. 487, "Determining the exterior material and finish of public buildings to be erected in 'the northwest triangle' of Washington, D. C.", received the consideration of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting today.

The Commission of Fine Arts is of the opinion that it would be an unsound policy for Congress to legislate with respect to defining the type and character of materials to be used in connection with the construction of Government buildings. In the opinion of this Commission it is a matter which should be determined by the architects in consultation with the governmental departments concerned and with the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts established by Congress for this purpose.

It is easy to see how a precedent might be established which would result in building supply organizations waiting upon the Congress to legislate to specify materials for building construction. This would tend to place a burden upon the Congress which, in the judgment of the Commission of Fine Arts, would be distinctly undesirable from the standpoint of each one of the members of Congress.

While the Commission of Fine Arts have no objection to the taking of alternate bids for different materials to face the War Department building, nevertheless the Commission feel that the matter should be handled between the architects and government agencies concerned and the Commission of Fine Arts for a thorough discussion of each specific problem.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,
(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. Fritz G. Lanham,
Chairman,
Committee on Public Buildings
and Grounds,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT D

C O P Y

March 30, 1940.

Dear Mr. Wyeth:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 29, 1940, considered a new model submitted by Mr. Lee Lawrie, sculptor, for a cheek block of the Municipal Center Building, as a companion piece to the one by Mr. John Gregory. The Commission approved the model. It is understood that this is a sketch model, subject to further development. The cap shown on the model should be left off.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. Nathan C. Wyeth,
Municipal Architect,
District Building,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT E

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ENGINEER COMMISSIONER
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON

March 29, 1940.

Hon. Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman, Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Clarke:

I received your telegram of March 29th regarding the ceramics for the East Administration Building. As I am leaving the city for a few days I am replying before receiving your letter.

Several unforeseen circumstances have arisen in connection with our Public Works program which involve absolutely necessary and inescapable additional expenditures on other projects. While we believe funds are sufficient to carry out plans as originally approved, it was thought the part of wisdom to defer any firm obligations on items which could, in a real emergency, be eliminated. Conditions being as they are, we thought it only fair to notify the artists. We believe and hope that the matter will clear itself up within a few weeks and that we will be able to proceed with the ceramic work. In other words, our stop order is merely precautionary action and if no more unforeseen circumstances arise, you are assured that we will proceed as early as possible.

Sincerely yours,



D. MCCACH, JR.,
Colonel, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army,
Engineer Commissioner.

Exhibit F

C O P Y

April 3, 1940.

My dear Colonel McCoach:

Your letter of March 29th, sent in reply to our telegram of that date, concerning the ceramics for the East Administration Building, has been received.

It was the intention of the Commission of Fine Arts to write to you more in detail in support of their contention that, the artists for the ceramics having won a competition and having been notified pursuant thereto, thereby a moral obligation was established by the District of Columbia Government to carry out the approved designs. There is also to be considered the fact that the plans of the building were made to make the ceramics an integral part of the design; the ceramics were not chosen as an after-thought.

Your letter would indicate that it is the firm intention of the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to provide these ceramics for the East Administration Building. The Commission of Fine Arts earnestly hope that nothing will be allowed to interfere with that intention.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Col. David McCoach, Jr.,
Engineer Commissioner of
the District of Columbia,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT F-1

C O P Y

April 6, 1940.

Dear Mr. Wyeth:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 29, 1940, were pleased to consider the design for flagpoles at the Municipal Center. The Commission recommend that these flagpoles be placed on the north side of the building at the proposed height of 54 feet, subject to the approval of the base by the Commission of Fine Arts.

The Commission feel that the base should be modeled by a sculptor, if possible as the result of a competition.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Hon. Nathan C. Wyeth,
Municipal Architect,
District Building,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT G

C O P Y

March 30, 1940.

Dear Mr. Wyeth:

At your request, the Commission of Fine Arts is restating its view with respect to materials for facing the National Guard Armory.

The Commission had previously discussed the use of precast exposed aggregate concrete and came to the conclusion that it would be a mistake to use this material since it has not been subject sufficiently to the test of time. The National Guard Armory will become a portion of a larger composition of buildings at the end of East Capitol Street, and therefore the Armory should be built of material which is lasting and likely to harmonize with other structures to be built there.

The Commission have no objection to utilizing precast architectural concrete slabs for the interior.

Members of the Commission of Fine Arts visited the Naval Testing Basin last Friday afternoon and observed that the exterior is discoloring rapidly. It is leaving black streaks at the joints of the slabs, which in places are also turning yellow. Thus, while the slabs had a clean white appearance some six or eight months ago, this is not true today.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Hon. Nathan C. Wyeth,
Municipal Architect,
District Building,
Washington, D. C.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

EXHIBIT H

184

The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem of the origin of life. It is shown that the problem is not only a scientific one, but also a philosophical one. The scientific aspect of the problem is concerned with the question of how life arose from non-life. The philosophical aspect is concerned with the question of whether life is a necessary part of the universe or whether it is a mere accident. The paper then proceeds to a discussion of the various theories of the origin of life. It is shown that the most plausible theory is that life arose from non-life through a series of chemical reactions. This theory is supported by the discovery of the first fossilized micro-organisms, which are believed to be the earliest forms of life. The paper concludes by stating that the origin of life is a problem that has fascinated mankind for centuries, and that it is one that will continue to fascinate us for many years to come.

184

C O P Y

March 30, 1940.

My dear Mr. Bruce:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 29, 1940, considered the photograph of a model of an American Eagle by Richmond Barthe for the Social Security Building. The photograph was brought to the particular attention of Mr. Paulanship, sculptor member of the Commission. Mr. Paulanship advises that some further study should be given to the head of the eagle and that the stars on the perimeter should be raised rather than in intaglio.

The Commission noted from a blueprint of the facade of the Social Security Building that this eagle is part of a sculptural competition-- a large panel. The Commission have therefore withheld approval of the model for the eagle pending consideration of the whole panel. The Commission suggest that the panel be studied as one composition.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. Edward Bruce, Chief,
Section of Fine Arts,
Federal Works Agency,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT I

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON

ADDRESS ONLY

DIRECTOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

March 7, 1940.

MEMORANDUM for Mr. H. P. Caemmerer:

Your memorandum of March 5 to Mr. Ronald F. Lee, concerning the National Park Service development program at Appomattox has been read with much interest. The information which you have contributed and your point of view are especially valuable to us at this time when basic plans for the Appomattox area are being made.

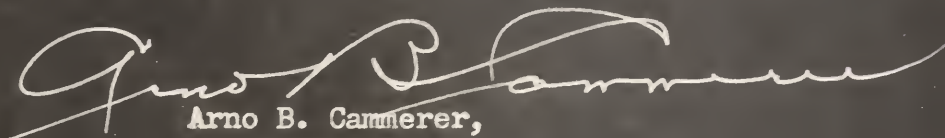
As you may know, National Park Service policy with regard to restorations is that, in general, it is better to preserve than to repair, better to repair than to restore, and better to restore than to reconstruct. In the case of the McLean House, the building is gone and can again be made a part of the Appomattox scene only through complete rebuilding or reconstruction.

A survey of public sentiment indicates that there is a widespread demand for the restoration of the McLean House, especially in Virginia, where the Williamsburg restoration has met with marked success. On the other hand, critics of the restoration idea have become articulate in the last few years and their arguments against reconstructing historic buildings which have disappeared must be taken into consideration. Our point of view would probably be that the reconstruction of the McLean House should be given serious consideration if the architectural measured drawings of 1893 are in existence and if this and other evidence is sufficiently complete to convince the Secretary of the Interior that the reconstructed building would be absolutely authentic.

At the present time, the National Park Service is engaged in collecting information regarding the physical appearance of the interior and exterior of the McLean House. War time photographs of the McLean House by the Union photographer Brady and a number of sketches made soon after the surrender have already been obtained. Anything that you may be able to do to assist us in locating such data will be appreciated. As you suggested in your telephonic conversation with Mr. Lee, yesterday, a letter is being written to Mr. D. H. Burnham in Chicago asking whether the records of the World's Fair of 1893 are still in existence.



Your offer to cooperate with the National Park Service in planning development at the McLean House site is appreciated. I should be glad to have this problem presented at the next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Arno B. Cammerer".

Arno B. Cammerer,
Director.

cc: Region One
Mr. Appleman
Coord. Supt. Fredericksburg.
Mr. Vint.



FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY
PUBLIC BUILDINGS ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISING ARCHITECT

WASHINGTON

IN REPLYING, QUOTE THE ABOVE SUBJECT, BUILDING, AND THESE LETTERS

SA- FA

APR 4 1940
April 4, 1940

Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman
The Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

In Mr. Bruce's absence, I have your letter of March 30th relative to the photograph of the model of the eagle by Richmond Barthe for the Social Security Building.

The comments of Mr. Manship relative to the model are noted and have been conveyed to the sculptor. The decorative panel of the lettering and ornament below the eagle noted by the Commission on the blue print of the facade has been eliminated by the architects. Consequently the design of the eagle may be considered alone.

Sincerely yours,

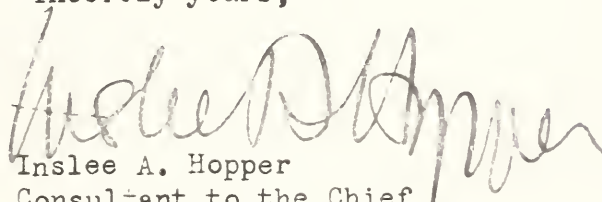

Inslee A. Hopper
Consultant to the Chief
Section of Fine Arts

Exhibit I - 1

C O P Y

April 6, 1940.

My dear Mr. Reynolds:

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, held on March 29, 1940, consideration was given to blueprints received from your office showing the design of certain halls and rooms in the new War Department building where sculpture and mural paintings may be appropriately placed. The Commission was pleased to learn that attention has been given to providing spaces for appropriate embellishment in certain locations within, as well as on the exterior of the building.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. W. E. Reynolds,
Commissioner of Public Buildings,
Federal Works Agency,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT J

1871

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APPLICANTS TO PAINT THE PORTRAIT OF FORMER PRESIDENT HOOVER

1. Albert K. Murray, B. F. A., 1 West 67th Street, New York, N. Y., through Senator J. M. Slattery.
2. Miss Martha Fort Anderson, Mt. Airy, Georgia, through Senator W. B. George.
3. Miss Violet B. Wenner, 819 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.
4. Miss Edith Stevenson Wright, Hotel Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio.
5. Mr. S. Curtis Baker, 2008 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.
6. Mrs. Joseph C. Oxley, Lewisburg, West Virginia.
7. Mr. W. S. Slagle, Alton, Iowa.
8. Mr. Edward Newnam, 7700 Verree Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
9. Mr. Fritz Werner, The Plaza, New York, N. Y.
10. Mr. Lloyd Embry, 135 East Bradley Lane, Chevy Chase, Maryland.
11. John C. Johansen (orally)
12. Wm. H. Ogden, Studio 99 $\frac{1}{2}$ Oak Street, Binghamton, New York.
13. Mrs. Ellen Emmet Rand, Salisbury, Connecticut.
14. Mrs. Rachel Bulley Trump, 503 Baird Road, Merion Station, Pennsylvania.
15. Salvatore Altoriso, 184 Park Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.
16. Miss Mary C. Peterson, 155 West Superior Street, Chicago, Illinois.
17. Robert Susan, 10 South 18th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
18. Miss Anna Wilson, 5959 Franklin Avenue, Hollywood, California.
19. John Doctoroff, 22 West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois.
20. Miss Schaeffer, New Rochelle, New York.
21. Wallace Bassford, 208 Board of Education Building, St. Louis, Missouri.
22. Colonel H. Stanley Todd, 65 West 56th Street, New York, N. Y.
23. Serena Cleveland, Mankato, Kansas.
24. Mr. Michel Jacobs, Lennox Avenue, Parmley Park, Rumson, N. J.
25. Mr. Fred Harding, 989 Hague Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota.
26. Raymond P. R. Neilson, N. A., 114 East 66th Street, New York, N. Y.

T H E C O M M I S S I O N O F F I N E A R T S

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

GILMOPE D. CLARKE, Chairman
 EUGENE F. SAVAGE WILLIAM F. LAMB
 CHARLES L. BORIE, Jr. PAUL MANSHIP
 HENRY R. SHEPLEY EDWARD BRUCE
 H. P. CAEMMERER, Secretary

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUILDING
 WASHINGTON

April 20, 1940.

To the Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Gentlemen:

During the past several years the Commission of Fine Arts have supported a movement, inaugurated by this Administration, to embellish public buildings in the District of Columbia and in the several States of the Union. This movement has conclusively demonstrated that we have in the United States artists---architects, painters, and sculptors---who have rendered most distinguished service in the professions of the arts.

The Commission of Fine Arts respectfully wish to emphasize the importance of maintaining the highest standards in respect to both design and execution of buildings erected by the Federal Government, for, in quality of excellence, the examples established in the art and architecture of governmental structures exert a potent national influence.

A serious handicap in the current movement to embellish public buildings has been the rather meagre allotment of funds for sculpture and mural paintings. On many Federal Post Office Buildings but one per cent of the total building cost has been allocated for the purposes of decoration. This sum seems much too small in consideration of the great influence which the work of competent painters and sculptors has upon the lives of people in all parts of the United States. In Italy, for example, five per cent of the total cost of governmental buildings is the normal allowance for works of art developed collaboratively.

In the case of public buildings constructed in the National Capital since 1927, the percentages of the cost of sculpture and mural decoration, in relation to the total cost, were as follows:

Building for the Department of Justice	3.5%
Building for the Archives	3.1%
Building for the Post Office Department	3.0%
Building for the Department of Commerce	1.2%
Building for the Department of the Interior	1.0%
Building for the Federal Trade Commission	1.7%
The United States Supreme Court	3.0%

In many instances the allocations of funds for sculpture and mural painting have been in the opinion of the Commission of Fine Arts, woefully inadequate. It is the considered judgment of this Commission that appropriations for decoration should never be less than three per cent of the cost of the building; often these appropriations might be increased to provide an allowance of from more than three to five per cent of the cost of a given structure. In any case the percentage should be sufficient to meet the cost of decoration as may be determined by the governmental agencies in immediate charge of the design of each project in conference with the architect of each building. The needs for embellishment of public buildings, in consideration of the particular character or type of structure should be, we believe, fixed and not sacrificed later for unforeseen expenditures in other directions as has frequently obtained in the past.

It is unnecessary to remind the members of the Congress of the important place the Fine Arts have in the history of the great nations of the world. The record of national achievement is largely told in sculpture and mural painting; we usually think of the nations of the past in terms of their principal heritage, the Fine Arts. "Art confers immortality. A noble, artistic representation immortalizes the cause symbolized, the thought embodied, the individual portrayed".

The decoration of our public buildings has an important bearing upon the future of art in this country. Linked with our artistic development are questions of patriotism and culture. This Nation, while young, has nevertheless a notable record of outstanding achievement and noble and inspiring historic events which deserve to be portrayed for posterity in great and important works of art.

The Commission of Fine Arts respectfully present this problem to the Members of the Congress, with the earnest hope that the Art of the United States may be encouraged to grow and to find expression in association with buildings, great and small, erected by authority of the Congress in Washington and in the States of the Union.

Respectfully submitted for the Commission of Fine Arts:

GILMORE D. CLARKE,

Chairman.

C O P Y

March 30, 1940.

My dear Mr. Waggaman:

With reference to your letter of February 27th, I have to inform you that the portrait of Mr. Justice Brandeis in the National Museum was inspected by Mr. Eugene Savage, painter member of the Commission of Fine Arts, at a meeting of the Commission held on March 29th. Mr. Savage reports that the portrait is not of sufficient merit to hang in the Supreme Court Building.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. Thos. E. Waggaman, Marshal,
United States Supreme Court,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT M

C O P Y

April 2, 1940.

Dear Sirs:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 29, 1940, referred to the National Capital Park and Planning Commission for appropriate action the accompanying protest from the West End Citizens Association against unsightly conditions caused by the West Works of the Washington Gas Light Company, and recommending their removal.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) H. P. Caemmerer,

Secretary.

The National Capital Park
and Planning Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT H

C O P Y

Interior Building,
Washington, D. C.
April 13, 1940.

MEMORANDUM TO MR. H. P. CAEMMERER:

Your letter of April 2, 1940, regarding letter from the West End Citizens Association against unsightly conditions caused by the West Works of the Washington Gas Light Company, to hand.

I cannot do better than give you a copy of letter which we sent to this Association on this matter, and which you notice has been O.K.'d by Mr. Delano.

(Signed) T. S. Settle, Secretary.

NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

March 15, 1940.

Mr. W. F. Wasson,
President, West End Citizens Association,
2107 - H Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Wasson:

Your letter of March 9, 1940, containing resolution passed by the West End Citizens Association, duly received, and will be brought to the attention of the Commission.

You realize, of course, that the Commission only has advisory powers in such matters. Control from the governmental point of view of the Gas Light Company lies in the hands of the Public Utilities Commission.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd) T. S. Settle,
Secretary.

TSS/mhm

EXHIBIT N-1

C O P Y

April 3, 1940.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 29, 1940, approved the design submitted by your office for a steel span bridge with stone-faced abutments (Scheme I, Drawing No. 117.5-103) for the North Access Underpass to the Washington National Airport. The Commission suggest taking out the notch and tow wall, but leaving the wing wall, as shown in the design.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Hon. A. B. Cammerer, Director,
National Park Service,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT O

C O P Y

April 3, 1940.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 29, 1940, approved a preliminary design prepared by your office for a double span all stone bridge (Drawing No. 117.5-104B) for the South Access Overpass (along the Mount Vernon Highway) to the Washington National Airport. This action was taken with the understanding that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission approve the location proposed for it a short distance north of Four Mile Run.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Hon. A. B. Cammerer, Director,
National Park Service,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT P

C O P Y

April 6, 1940.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on March 29, 1940, considered a plan submitted by Mr. Donald Kline, Landscape Architect of your office, for a playground adjacent to the Rock Creek Parkway, between Olive and P Streets, to be known as the Rose Park Playground. The Commission approved the plan.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Hon. A. B. Cammerer, Director,
National Park Service,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT Q

C O P Y

April 6, 1940.

My dear Mr. DiFalco:

Your letter of March 26th, stating that your Memorial Committee cannot meet the requirements specified by the National Park Service for locating the Marconi Memorial on a reservation at Sixteenth and Harvard Streets, received the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on March 29th.

During the afternoon the Commission visited Meridian Hill Park. There are several suitable locations for the memorial in that park. The Commission expressed a preference for the site heretofore mentioned in the Lower Garden, along Sixteenth Street, facing the statue of Dante.

There is another reservation available (309 A) at Sixteenth and Lamont Streets, which is about three blocks north of the Harvard Street site. If your Memorial Committee prefers that location, application therefor should be made to the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Mr. S. Samuel DiFalco, Secretary,
Marconi Memorial Foundation,
270 Broadway,
New York, New York.

EXHIBIT R

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